

# Sports Saturday

## BYU caps incredible season with 24-17 Holiday Bowl win

By John Robinson  
Executive sports editor

SAN DIEGO — The glass slipper fits — barely.

BYU capped an incredible Cinderella season with another incredible Holiday Bowl win, 24-17 over Michigan Friday night to probably wrap up the national championship.

Somehow, the now 13-0 No. 1 Cougars survived six turnovers and a blocked field goal to pull it out. The Wolverines didn't turn the ball over.

A crippled Robbie Bosco, playing with a banged up knee that sidelined him for much of the first half, directed the Cougars on a do-or-die 83 yard drive with 4:36 remaining.

It culminated with an excellent catch in the end zone by Kelly Smith on a bullet pass from Bosco.

Bosco looked like he was trapped behind the line of scrimmage for a loss at the 18, but broke loose up the middle and as he neared the line of scrimmage drilled the pass to Smith who slightly bobbled it and then grasped it to his chest for the score. Lee Johnson's extra point gave the Cougars their final 24-17 margin.

That margin was sealed with .44 left when Marv Allen intercepted a Chris Zurbrugg pass at the Michigan 38 yard line.

On the winning drive, Bosco started it off with a keeper to the 34. Lakei Heimuli then ran to the 34 for a first down. A pass to Mark Bellini and a face mask penalty gave the Cougars the ball on the Michigan 35.

Bosco then moved the Cougars into scoring position with passes to Heimuli, Adam Haysbert and Smith before finding Smith for the game winner.

After turning the ball over four times and having a field goal blocked in the first three quarters, BYU started the fourth quarter by setting up Michigan for a field goal.

Vai Sikahema bobbled the kickoff after Michigan's third quarter touchdown put the Wolverines up 14-10, recovering on the 4. However, a second-down fumble by Lakei Heimuli at the 11 was recovered by the Wolverines.

The defense prevented a touchdown but a 33-yard field goal made it 17-10, Wolverines.

The Cougars then began an 80-yard march to put the game up for grabs with 10:51 left.

On a third-and-7 from the BYU 45, Robbie Bosco found Adam Haysbert over the middle for a 20-yard gain to the Michigan 35.

Bosco then found Mark Bellini at the 16.

A pass to David Mills got the ball to the 7 to set up a spectacular touchdown play.

Bosco scrambled around before lofting the ball to the back of the end zone where Glen Kozlowski made a leaping catch while being sandwiched by two Wolverine defenders. Johnson's extra point tied the score at 17.

A fumble, an interception and a blocked field goal killed potential BYU scoring drives in the third quarter.

BYU received to start the second half and after two completions was near midfield. However, an overthrown pass by Bosco was intercepted.

The Cougar defense held, with the big play being a 19-yard sack of the quarterback by Leon White.

The Cougars then moved quickly to inside the Michigan 30 where they self-destructed again.

As Bosco was going back to pass he was hit, and fumbled the ball, the Wolverines recovering on the 33.

Again the defense held and again the Cougars marched back down into Michigan territory. The key plays were a couple of runs by Heimuli.

But a 52-yard field goal try by Lee Johnson was blocked by Tim Anderson and returned by Erik Campbell to the Cougar 46.

The Wolverines took advantage of that opportunity.

They moved the ball methodically to the 10 where Zurbrugg connected on a scoring toss to his fullback Perryman. The extra-point made it 14-10 Wolverines with just 19 seconds left in the period.

A fumble at the Michigan goal line and penalties prevented BYU from dominating the first half on the scoreboard.

With about 7 minutes left in the half and BYU leading 7-0, two great defensive plays gave the Cougars the opportunity to increase their lead.

Michigan had the ball on its own 26 with a third-and-4 situation. Zurbrugg dropped back to pass and was sacked for a 10-yard loss by Leon White and Jim Hermann.

Then, on fourth and 10 at the 16, a fierce rush prevented Monte Robbins from getting a punt off. Robbins tried to run around the Cougar defense but was tackled at the 5 by Ladd Akeo.

So, the Cougars had first and goal at the 5 with a chance to go up 14-0.



Brigham Young backup quarterback Blaine Fowler breaks out of a crowd in first quarter play.

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Bosco found tight end David Mills at the 2 on first down. Lakei Heimuli was stopped for no gain on second down and on third down came probably the most critical play of the first half.

Bosco rolled out to his right and then tried to cut upfield. As he neared the goal line, he was hit and fumbled into the end zone. Michigan recovered and got the ball at its 20 on the touchback.

The Wolverines marched down the field behind the running of Rick Rogers and Bob Perryman and a 13-yard pass from Zurbrugg to Vince Bean that put the ball on the BYU 20.

After a 3-yard run by Perryman, Michigan benefitted from another BYU mistake.

An erratic pitchout near the sideline was recovered by BYU at the 26. It was ruled the recovery took place out of bounds so Michigan retained possession of the football.

However, instead of having a third-and-16 to go for the first down it became third-and-3 because of a non-contact personal foul penalty on BYU. The Cougars complained about not being awarded the ball on the fumble recovery.

Still, the Cougars held and Michigan was forced to kick a 32-yard field goal. However, the Cougars were penalized for roughing the kicker and Michigan got a first down and goal at the 10.

Rogers carried two straight times with the second one going for a 5-yard touchdown. The extra point kick tied the score at 7-7 with 1:13 remaining.

BYU's Kelly Smith carries for 5-yard TD run in the second quarter, en route to 7-0 lead.

## Aggies down Idaho State in Minidome

By Kurt Kragthorpe  
Deseret News sports writer

POCATELLO, Idaho — Guard Vince Washington led five scorers in double figures with 21 points as Utah State took a 94-85 win over Idaho State before 2,527 in the Minidome Friday night.

Greg Grant and Gary Beck followed with 19 points, Bill Floyd added 15 and Jeff Anderson 14 for the Aggies, now 7-1 after their fifth straight victory. The Bengals, 5-4, were led by Nelson Peterson and Donn Holston with 22 points each.

Oklahoma transfer Jerome Johnson made his first Aggie appearance, playing the final five minutes of the first half and scoring two points. USU coach Rod Tueller plans to increase Johnson's playing time gradually.

The Aggies can use the inside presence of the 6-8, 235-pound Johnson over the 18-game PCAA schedule, which starts Jan. 2 against Nevada-Las Vegas. USU winds up the preseason next Friday at 19th-ranked Louisiana State.

Before Friday, Johnson's last game action was a 2½-minute appearance in the 1983 NCAA Tournament, with Oklahoma losing to Indiana. After arriving in Logan last January, he had to wait one full academic year to become eligible, missing the first seven games this season.

"I'm anxious to play again," Johnson noted this week, "but I'm a little nervous, wondering, 'How is it going to be in competition?' It's not like practice, it's the real thing. It's going to be a lot different, being in a game."

Sitting behind the USU bench, Johnson (the Aggies' only sophomore) was all but forgotten during the recent in-state games as the Ags kept the Oquirrh Bucket for the third straight year. Still, people in Logan have big expectations for Johnson and his defense and rebounding.

"Everybody on the team can score, but I'll add more defense, especially down low," Johnson noted. "That's been the team's weakest part, against bigger, heavier guys."

As an Oklahoma freshman, Johnson appeared in 17 games and averaged 1.6 points and 2.2 rebounds in backing up Wayman Tisdale. When asked to redshirt the 1983-84 season, Johnson decided to transfer and contacted Tueller, who'd recruited him out of high school in Inglewood, Calif. Tueller would say later, "Obviously, we had room for him."

